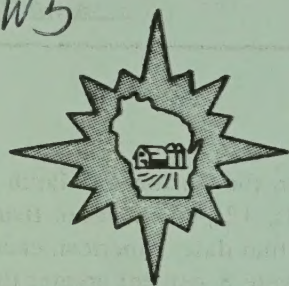


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WISCONSIN *Farm Reporter*

- Dairy
- Crops
- Livestock

VOL. XII, NO. 6

April 1980

Cream of the News

Milk production in Wisconsin and the Nation during March continued above a year earlier, with the State's output up 2 percent and the National production increasing 3 percent.

Wholesale prices of dairy products for March were up from February and well above last year.

Cheese and butter production in Wisconsin and the Nation during February was higher than a year ago, and weekly estimates for March indicated a continuation of that trend.

Prices received by Wisconsin farmers for milk sold in March averaged about 16 cents above February and were 95 cents more than March 1979.

Cold storage stocks of cheese in the Nation at the end of March were 12 percent larger than a year ago and a record high for that date.

The index of prices received by Wisconsin farmers as of mid-March remained the same as a month earlier but the prices paid index increased 4 percent.

According to the April 1 planting intentions survey for the 1980 crop season, farmers in Wisconsin and the Nation expect to increase corn acreage but keep soybean acreage about the same.

Cash receipts from the sale of Wisconsin livestock in 1979 were up 26 percent from 1978, with only hogs showing a decline.

The number of cattle and calves on feed in Wisconsin on April 1 was higher than a year ago, but the major feeding states had fewer head on feed.

Feeder pig prices in Wisconsin during February were below a year earlier.

Wool production in Wisconsin and the Nation during 1979 was up from the previous year.

Cold storage stocks of red meat in the Nation at the end of March were 8 percent less than a year ago, but poultry stocks were up 50 percent.

Beef and hog prices at Wisconsin markets in March were lower than last year.

MILK PRODUCTION REMAINS ABOVE A YEAR AGO

Milk production on Wisconsin farms during March totaled 1,931 million pounds, an increase of 2 percent from a year ago. The State's monthly milk production has been above a year earlier since April 1979. Production in the first quarter of this year was up about 2.5 percent from that quarter last year. Output per cow in March averaged 1,065 pounds, a gain of 20 pounds from March 1979. There were 1,813,000 milk cows on Wisconsin farms during March, an increase of 1,000 head from the previous year.

The Nation's milk production during March totaled 10.9 billion pounds, 3 percent above a year ago. Accumulated production in the first quarter of 1980 was up 4 percent from that period last year. Production per cow for March averaged 1,009 pounds, 32 pounds more than a year earlier. Milk cow numbers in March were slightly more than in March 1979. Of the major milk producing states, production during March was up 7 percent in California, 4 percent in Pennsylvania, 2 percent in New York, but nearly the same as a year ago in Minnesota.

Milk Production

Selected States	March 1979	March 1980	Jan.-Mar. 1980	Change from last year	
				March	Jan.-Mar.
	Million pounds			Percent	
Wisconsin . . .	1,894	1,931	5,448	+ 2	+ 2
Minnesota . . .	857	859	2,423	n. c.	+ 1
New York . . .	939	954	2,705	+ 2	+ 3
Pennsylvania . .	677	706	2,077	+ 4	+ 8
California . . .	1,010	1,082	3,108	+ 7	+ 9
Other states . .	5,149	5,349	15,297	+ 4	+ 4
United States .	10,526	10,881	31,058	+ 3	+ 4

MILK PRICE UP IN MARCH

Prices received by Wisconsin farmers for milk sold in March were expected to average \$12.50 a hundredweight. This would be 16 cents more than in February and 95 cents above March 1979.

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Milk prices averaged \$12.34 a hundredweight during February, up 1 cent from the previous month and 81 cents higher than last year. The average milkfat content for February was 3.80 percent compared with 3.82 percent in February 1979.

Milk produced for the Grade A market returned an average of \$12.52 a hundredweight in February, 2 cents more than the previous month and 77 cents above a year ago. Manufacturing grade milk averaged \$11.95 a hundredweight for February, down 2 cents from January but 88 cents higher than a year earlier.

The 3.5 percent base price for manufacturing grade milk in February was \$11.52 a hundredweight, 30 cents above the March government support price. The April 1 support price was announced at \$12.07 a hundredweight for 3.5 percent manufacturing grade milk, an increase of 85 cents.

Milk Prices 1/

Selected States	January 1980		February price per cwt.			March 1980 price per cwt. 2/
	Average test	Price per cwt.	1979	1980	80/79 change	
	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars
Milk for all uses						
Wisconsin	3.81	12.33	11.53	12.34	+ 7	12.50
Minnesota	3.69	11.98	11.06	11.96	+ 8	11.90
New York	3.66	12.50	11.90	12.50	+ 5	13.20
California	3.77	12.60	10.90	12.50	+ 15	12.30
United States . .	3.77	12.80	11.90	12.80	+ 8	12.70
Wisconsin utilization						
Market milk . . .	3.80	12.50	11.75	12.52	+ 7	XXX
Manufacturing milk	3.84	11.97	11.07	11.95	+ 8	XXX
Creameries . . .	3.84	11.84	11.00	11.82	+ 7	XXX
Cheese factories	3.84	11.98	11.08	11.97	+ 8	XXX
Varied prod. plants	3.83	11.88	11.00	11.86	+ 8	XXX

1/Preliminary average buying prices received for milk of average test. They differ from basic buying prices which are for 3.5% milk. 2/Based on preliminary information for milk of average test.

Wisconsin 3.5 Test Milk Prices 1/

Utilization	February 1979	January 1980 ¹	February 1980 2/	Change from last year
	Dollars per cwt.			Percent
Market milk	11.34	12.05	12.07	+ 6
Manufacturing milk	10.68	11.50	11.52	+ 8
Creameries	10.57	11.37	11.39	+ 8
American cheese plants	10.67	11.50	11.53	+ 8
Varied products plants	10.60	11.42	11.44	+ 8
Federal Order Markets				
Chicago Regional Base Zone . .	11.11	11.88	11.89	+ 7

1/Computed using milkfat differential. 2/Preliminary.

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CHEESE STOCKS UP 12 PERCENT

Cold storage stocks of cheese in the Nation on March 31 totaled nearly 504 million pounds, 12 percent more than a year ago and a record amount for that date. American cheese stocks, at 391.6 million pounds, were 8 percent greater than on March 31, 1979. Stocks of Swiss cheese were up 19 percent from a year earlier, while supplies of all other cheese in cold storage were one-third larger than last year.

The Government had about 4.8 million pounds of American cheese in cold storage at the end of March compared with 3.2 million pounds the previous year. Wisconsin's cold storage stocks of American cheese totaled 210.3 million pounds on March 31, an increase of 10 percent from a year ago.

Butter stocks in the Nation's cold storage facilities at the end of March amounted to 209.6 million pounds, slightly below a year earlier. Government butter stocks totaled almost 171 million pounds, 4 percent under March 31, 1979. Wisconsin had 24.3 million pounds of butter in cold storage, 13 percent less than the previous year.

Cold Storage Stocks of Butter and Cheese

Commodity	March 31 1978	March 31 1979	March 31 1980	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
	UNITED STATES			
Butter	235,768	210,073	209,645	n. c.
Cheese, American	364,742	362,980	391,597	+ 8
Cheese, Swiss	9,630	12,067	14,310	+ 19
Cheese, all other	55,675	73,517	97,802	+ 33
Cheese, total	430,047	448,564	503,709	+ 12
	WISCONSIN			
Butter	22,484	28,040	24,322	- 13
Cheese, American	189,170	190,516	210,263	+ 10
	GOVERNMENT STOCKS*			
Butter	179,037	177,924	170,849	- 4
Cheese, American	31,355	3,231	4,752	+ 47

*Included in above totals.

Manufacturers' Stocks of Other Dairy Products, United States

Commodity	February 28 1978	February 28 1979	February 29 1980	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
Dried whole milk	5,394	4,562	4,595	+ 1
Dried skim milk	57,768	41,835	82,181	+ 96
Dried buttermilk	7,485	4,835	9,516	+ 97
Condensed milk and evaporated milk (case goods) 1/ . .	52,869	56,359	73,889	+ 31

1/Combined to avoid disclosing individual plant operations.

CHEESE AND BUTTER PRODUCTION ABOVE YEAR AGO

Production of butter and cheese in Wisconsin and the Nation during February was higher than a year ago. Wisconsin's butter output of 25.5 million pounds for February was up 15 percent from last year. Nationally, butter production during February was 14 percent larger than a year earlier. Minnesota's butter production declined 1 percent from February 1979 but California increased 32 percent and other states had a gain of 14 percent.

Total cheese production in the Nation during February was 8 percent more than the previous year. Output of Swiss cheese was down 3 percent, but the other types of cheese had higher production. Increases by varieties were American 6 percent, Italian 11 percent, Brick and Muenster 2 percent, and all other cheese 23 percent.

American cheese production in Wisconsin for February totaled 73.6 million pounds, a gain of 3 percent from February 1979. Output of American cheese in Minnesota during February was up 7 percent from last year, but Iowa had a decline of 7 percent.

The National production of cottage cheese and ice cream in February was above a year earlier.

Current Dairy Products Estimates

Item and area	Feb. 1979	Feb. 1980	Jan-Feb. 1980	Change from last year	
				Feb.	Jan-Feb.
	1,000 pounds			Percent	
BUTTER					
Wisconsin	22,200	25,500	51,000	+ 15	+ 9
Minnesota	13,465	13,310	25,840	- 1	- 9
California	11,250	14,800	32,300	+ 32	+ 33
Other states	39,727	45,471	93,712	+ 14	+ 10
United States	86,642	99,081	202,852	+ 14	+ 10
CHEESE, AMERICAN					
Wisconsin	71,800	73,600	148,800	+ 3	+ 4
Minnesota	34,620	36,940	75,230	+ 7	+ 2
Iowa	7,852	7,327	14,873	- 7	- 8
Other states	51,700	58,661	119,634	+ 13	+ 11
United States	165,972	176,528	358,537	+ 6	+ 6
CHEESE, MISCELLANEOUS					
United States					
Swiss	16,769	16,217	33,912	- 3	- 3
Brick and Muenster	5,418	5,500	12,930	+ 2	+ 10
Italian	70,367	78,090	159,425	+ 11	+ 11
All other	17,498	21,542	43,559	+ 23	+ 24
Total	110,052	121,349	249,826	+ 10	+ 11
ALL CHEESE					
United States	276,024	297,877	608,363	+ 8	+ 8
OTHER PRODUCTS					
Cottage Cheese					
United States					
Curd 1/	53,896	55,215	109,377	+ 2	n. c.
Creamed 2/	65,491	68,504	135,567	+ 5	+ 1
Lowfat 3/	12,235	14,026	27,200	+ 15	+ 13
	1,000 gallons			Percent	
ICE CREAM					
Wisconsin	1,250	1,400	2,650	+ 12	+ 6
Illinois	2,760	3,010	5,860	+ 9	+ 12
Iowa	881	1,017	2,032	+ 15	+ 34
Michigan	2,600	2,700	5,200	+ 4	+ 1
Minnesota	2,475	2,660	5,235	+ 7	+ 17
Other states	47,660	48,524	95,758	+ 2	+ 1
United States	57,626	59,311	116,735	+ 3	+ 3

1/Mostly used for processing into creamed or lowfat cottage cheese. 2/Fat content 4 percent or more. 3/Fat content less than 4 percent.

WHOLESALE DAIRY PRICES HIGHER

Wholesale prices of dairy products increased from February to March. The 92-score butter price at New York averaged 136.69 cents a pound in March, up 1 cent from February and 17 cents more than last year.

Cheddar cheese in 40 pound blocks averaged 129.60 cents a pound at Wisconsin assembly points during March. This was about 3½ cents higher than the previous month and 10 cents above a year ago.

Swiss cheese, Wisconsin State Brand, averaged 166.73 cents a pound for March. Prices for Swiss cheese were up almost 4 cents from February and were nearly 16 cents higher than in March 1979.

National evaporated milk prices averaged \$19.20 a case in March, a slight increase from February and \$1.72 more than last year.

Nonfat dry milk prices averaged 84.24 cents a pound during March, a gain of about one-half cent from a month earlier and nearly 8 cents above the previous year.

Wholesale Dairy Prices

Commodity	March 1979	February 1980	March 1980
Butter, 92-score, New York, pound . .	119.50¢	135.71¢	136.69¢
Cheese, Cheddars, Wisconsin primary markets, 40 lb. block, pound 1/ . .	119.72¢	126.00¢	129.60¢
Cheese, Swiss, Wisconsin State Brand, block, pound 1/	151.00¢	163.00¢	166.73¢
National evaporated milk, case, 48 13-fluid-oz. cans	\$17.48	\$19.17	\$19.20
Nonfat dry milk solids, spray, Chicago area, pound	76.46¢	83.78¢	84.24¢

1/Selling prices, f.o.b. at Wisconsin assembly points.

AMERICAN CHEESE AND BUTTER PRODUCTION TO CONTINUE HIGHER

Based on weekly estimates for March, production of American cheese and butter in Wisconsin and the Nation will continue above a year ago. The Nation's butter output in March could be up 13 percent from the previous year, after increasing 10 percent in the first two months of 1980. Wisconsin's butter production during March remained substantially higher than a year earlier following a 9 percent increase for January and February.

American cheese production in the Nation during March was about 5 percent more than a year ago, nearly equal to the increase shown for January and February. Wisconsin's output of American cheese in March was expected to exceed the 4 percent gain of the first two months this year.

Recent Changes in Butter and Cheese Output

Periods	Butter			American cheese		
	United States		Wisconsin	United States		Wisconsin
	Production 1980	Change from last year	Change from last year	Production 1980	Change from last year	Change from last year
	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent
February	99,081	+ 14	+ 15	176,528	+ 6	+ 3
Jan.-Feb.	202,852	+ 10	+ 9	358,537	+ 6	+ 4
Weeks ending						
Mar. 6	22,500	+ 11	+ 6	43,100	+ 8	+ 9
Mar. 13	22,300	+ 10	+ 12	42,200	+ 2	+ 2
Mar. 20	22,300	+ 13	+ 8	43,700	+ 3	+ 5
Mar. 27	23,600	+ 17	+ 14	45,300	+ 5	+ 8
April 3	23,700	+ 14	+ 10	45,500	+ 6	+ 6
Total	114,400	+ 13	XXX	219,800	+ 5	XXX

PRICES PAID INDEX HIGHER BUT PRICES RECEIVED UNCHANGED

The index of prices paid by Wisconsin farmers as of mid-March was up 4 points from a month earlier but the index of prices received remained the same.

Livestock prices showed a mixed trend for March. Milk cows averaged \$1,190.00 per head, an increase of \$70.00 from February and \$240.00 higher than March 1979. Calves returned an average of \$120.00 a hundredweight for March,

down \$3.00 from the previous month but \$4.00 above last year.

Steers and heifers averaged \$70.30 a hundredweight in March, a gain of \$2.10 from February but 70 cents under a year earlier. This was the first month since May 1977 that prices for steers and heifers were lower than the previous year.

Slaughter cows brought an average of \$50.80 a hundredweight as of mid-March, a decline of \$2.30 from February and \$4.00 less than March 1979.

Hog prices dropped to an average of \$34.40 a hundredweight as of March 15, down \$2.40 from the previous month and \$13.70 below last year.

Sheep averaged \$20.00 a hundredweight in March, up \$2.50 from February but 50 cents lower than a year ago. Lamb prices, at \$63.50 a hundredweight for March, were \$3.00 higher than a month earlier and 50 cents more than last year.

Egg prices increased 3 cents from February to March but at 46 cents a dozen were more than 7 cents under a year ago.

Prices for oats and alfalfa hay as of mid-March were up from the previous month, but other crop prices declined. Oats averaged \$1.36 a bushel, the highest since June 1977. Oats were up 2 cents from February and 16 cents above March 1979.

Wheat averaged \$3.50 a bushel in March, a decline of 10 cents from a month earlier but 38 cents higher than the previous year. The mid-March corn price of \$2.21 a bushel was 2 cents lower than in February, but 8 cents more than last year.

Prices Received by Wisconsin Farmers

Commodity	Unit	Month of March 1978	Month of March 1979	February 15 1980	March 15 1980
Dollars					
Milk cows	Head	655.00	950.00	1,120.00	1,190.00
Steers and heifers	Cwt.	42.60	71.00	68.20	70.30
Cows	Cwt.	33.30	54.80	53.10	50.80
Calves	Cwt.	45.70	116.00	123.00	120.00
Hogs	Cwt.	46.50	48.10	36.80	34.40
Sheep	Cwt.	14.06	20.50	17.50	20.00
Lambs	Cwt.	67.64	63.00	60.50	63.50
Turkeys	Lb.	.380	1/	1/	1/
Eggs	Doz.	.480	.533	.430	.460
Corn	Bu.	2.00	2.13	2.23 2/	2.21
Wheat	Bu.	2.42	3.12	3.60	3.50
Oats	Bu.	1.12	1.20	1.34 2/	1.36
Soybeans	Bu.	6.10	6.93	5.55	5.45
Alfalfa hay, baled	Ton	47.00	35.50	32.50	34.00

1/Insufficient sales to establish price. 2/Average for the month.

Soybean prices declined 10 cents from February to March. At \$5.45 a bushel, soybeans were \$1.48 under the mid-March price in 1979. Baled alfalfa hay averaged \$34.00 a ton for March, up \$1.50 from February but \$1.50 below a year ago.

CORN ACREAGE MAY INCREASE IN 1980

The April 1 survey of planting intentions for the 1980 crop season indicated that farmers in Wisconsin and the Nation would increase corn acreage. Wisconsin corn growers intend to plant 4,050,000 acres this year, up 3 percent or 100,000 acres from last year. This would be the first time that the State's corn acreage exceeded 4 million acres. Nationally the corn acreage is expected to total 82 million acres, nearly 3 percent more than in 1979.

Soybean acreage for 1980 may show little change. Wisconsin's soybean acreage is intended at 300,000 acres, the same as last year. A total of 71.3 million acres of soybeans is expected to be planted in the Nation this year, down less than 1 percent from 1979.

According to the April 1 survey, oat acreage in Wisconsin for 1980 may amount to 1,120,000 acres. This would be 2 percent (20,000 acres) more than seeded last year. Oat acreage in the Nation was indicated at 13.7 million acres for 1980, a decline of 3 percent from the previous year.

Farmers in Wisconsin and the Nation plan to increase spring wheat acreage this year. The 19,000 acres of spring wheat intended in Wisconsin would be 2,000 acres more than seeded in 1979. Spring wheat acreage in the Nation for this year is expected to increase 10 percent.

Wisconsin farmers plan to put in 27,000 acres of barley in 1980, up 2,000 acres from last year. The National barley acreage is expected to increase 2 percent.

Hay acreage in Wisconsin may decline 2 percent this year. The 3,950,000 acres of hay intended for harvest would be 80,000 acres less than last year. Nationally the hay acreage indication is down 1 percent.

Tobacco acreage in both Wisconsin and the Nation will be increased in 1980. The State's tobacco acreage is expected to total 13,700 acres, up 800 acres from 1979 and the highest since 1960. Tobacco growers in the Nation plan to raise 12 percent more acres this year.

Sunflower acreage in the Nation during 1980 is indicated to drop 20 percent from the previous year, but acreage of cotton could be up 6 percent.

Planted Acreage, Selected Crops, 1980 Intentions
Compared with 1978 and 1979 Planted Acreage, Wisconsin and United States

Crop	Wisconsin				United States			
	1978	1979	1980	Change from last year	1978	1979	1980	Change from last year
	1,000 acres			Percent	1,000 acres			Percent
Corn, all	3,750	3,950	4,050	+ 3	80,052	80,011	82,022	+ 3
Spring wheat	13	17	19	+ 12	14,252	15,597	17,091	+ 10
Oats 1/	1,250	1,100	1,120	+ 2	16,245	14,146	13,694	- 3
Barley 1/	28	25	27	+ 8	9,996	8,060	8,232	+ 2
Tobacco, type 54 2/	6.2	6.3	6.5	+ 3	—	—	—	—
Tobacco, type 55 2/	5.9	6.6	7.2	+ 9	—	—	—	—
Tobacco, all 2/	12.1	12.9	13.7	+ 6	948.3	830.1	929.5	+ 12
Soybeans	220	300	300	n. c.	64,383	71,586	71,292	n. c.
Hay, all 2/	4,000	4,030	3,950	- 2	61,515	61,162	60,527	- 1

1/U. S. total includes acreage planted preceding fall. 2/Acres harvested or intended for harvest.

The April 1 planting intentions survey was taken to indicate any changes from an earlier survey on January 1, and to assist farmers in making decisions on any further adjustments in their acreage plans as may seem desirable. The acreages actually planted could vary from those indicated on the April 1 survey due to weather conditions, commodity prices, interest rates, availability of money, government agricultural programs, or the effects of this prospective plantings report on the intentions of farmers.

LIVESTOCK CASH RECEIPTS SUBSTANTIALLY HIGHER IN 1979

Cash receipts from the sale of Wisconsin livestock in 1979 were 26 percent higher than in 1978. Prices were up for cattle, calves, sheep, and lambs but declined for hogs. Total receipts from livestock sales during 1979 amounted to \$828.3 million compared with \$655.7 million the previous year.

Cattle prices averaged a record high of \$54.70 a hundredweight for 1979, an increase of \$15.80 from 1978. Calves also were a record high of \$113.00 a hundredweight in 1979, nearly double the 1978 price.

Hog prices averaged \$41.40 a hundredweight in 1979, down \$4.50 from the previous year. Prices for both sheep and lambs were record highs in 1979. Sheep averaged \$19.80 a hundredweight, an increase of \$4.70 from 1978. Lambs returned an average of \$62.50 a hundredweight for 1979, up \$4.30 from a year earlier.

On the pound basis, marketings of cattle and calves during 1979 were down 10 percent from 1978. However, cash receipts from the sales of cattle and calves were 43 percent higher than in 1978. Total pounds of hogs marketed in 1979 were 7 percent more than the previous year but cash receipts declined 3 percent. There were 16 percent more pounds of sheep and lambs marketed in 1979 than in 1978, and returns from sales were up 22 percent.

FEWER CATTLE ON FEED IN NATION

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the 23 major states totaled 10.2 million head on April 1, a decline of 8 percent from a year ago. Cattle feeders in Wisconsin had 120,000 head on feed April 1, an increase of 18 percent from that date last year.

CATTLE AND CALVES: Production and Income Wisconsin, 1970-79

Year	Production 1/ 1,000 pounds	Marketings 2/ 1,000 pounds	Price per 100 pounds		Cash receipts 1,000 dollars	Value of home consumption 1,000 dollars	Gross income
			Cattle	Calves			
			Dollars				
1970	1,037,190	942,058	22.00	38.10	230,039	18,161	248,200
1971	1,016,690	906,412	22.50	39.80	229,887	19,594	249,481
1972	1,004,450	961,994	26.70	47.30	287,765	21,500	309,265
1973	936,170	905,644	34.30	58.90	343,707	19,612	363,319
1974	1,024,040	821,048	27.70	38.50	240,571	34,682	275,253
1975	1,032,050	1,033,770	24.90	31.80	268,030	28,760	296,790
1976	1,010,930	1,155,550	27.60	37.10	333,368	22,963	356,331
1977	919,740	1,033,960	27.60	41.20	311,153	17,519	328,672
1978	979,675	978,955	38.90	57.10	415,218	25,971	441,189
1979	1,002,900	883,475	54.70	113.00	595,214	35,291	630,505

1/Adjustments made for numbers shipped in and changes in inventory. 2/Excludes inter-farm sales.

HOGS: Production and Income, Wisconsin, 1970-79

Year	Production 1/ 1,000 pounds	Marketings 2/ 1,000 pounds	Price per 100 pounds	Cash receipts 1,000 dollars	Value of home consumption 1,000 dollars	Gross income
1970	707,823	667,907	22.50	150,279	3,924	154,203
1971	725,938	729,530	17.80	129,856	3,004	132,860
1972	611,771	627,934	24.90	156,356	4,622	160,978
1973	562,495	537,912	37.50	201,717	7,518	209,235
1974	553,818	555,130	32.70	181,528	7,063	188,591
1975	436,724	449,370	46.00	206,710	10,184	216,894
1976	482,395	449,524	42.50	191,048	9,376	200,424
1977	516,221	482,120	38.90	187,545	6,766	194,311
1978	574,389	517,642	45.90	237,598	8,388	245,986
1979	598,500	554,564	41.40	229,589	8,684	238,273

1/Adjustments made for numbers shipped in and changes in inventory. 2/Excludes inter-farm sales.

SHEEP AND LAMBS: Production and Income, Wisconsin, 1970-79

Year	Production 1/ 1,000 pounds	Marketings 2/ 1,000 pounds	Price per 100 pounds		Cash receipts 1,000 dollars	Value of home consumption 1,000 dollars	Gross income
			Sheep	Lambs			
1970	9,776	12,211	6.20	25.10	2,657	35	2,692
1971	8,587	10,067	5.60	24.80	2,231	35	2,266
1972	8,312	10,799	6.10	27.40	2,591	38	2,629
1973	7,656	9,556	10.00	31.40	2,607	44	2,651
1974	6,935	8,112	8.25	34.80	2,487	49	2,536
1975	5,914	7,334	7.40	38.50	2,394	62	2,456
1976	5,721	7,948	10.70	41.20	2,713	82	2,795
1977	6,518	6,468	10.60	48.20	2,945	145	3,090
1978	6,567	5,080	15.10	58.20	2,905	204	3,109
1979	7,523	5,886	19.80	62.50	3,531	188	3,719

1/Adjustments made for numbers shipped in and changes in inventory. 2/Excludes inter-farm sales.

Placements of cattle and calves on feed in the 23 states during the past quarter were 11 percent fewer than in that quarter of 1979. Wisconsin placements were up 28 percent from January-March last year.

Fed cattle marketings in the 23 states during the past quarter were down 9 percent from the previous year. Marketings for the April through June quarter are expected to be 4 percent less than in that period of 1979.

Wisconsin marketed 5 percent more fed cattle during January through March than a year earlier, and marketings for the second quarter of 1980 are expected to increase 2 percent from the comparable quarter last year.

Cattle and Calves on Feed by Quarters
April 1, 1979, January 1, and April 1, 1980 1/

State	April 1 1979	January 1 1980	April 1 1980	Change from last year
	1,000 head			Percent
Arizona	380	420	324	-15
California	623	764	552	-11
Colorado	925	960	700	-24
Idaho	245	260	239	-2
Illinois	480	460	470	-2
Indiana	270	250	235	-13
Iowa	1,430	1,390	1,335	-7
Kansas	1,260	1,270	1,125	-11
Michigan	165	165	150	-9
Minnesota	340	390	400	+18
Missouri	140	120	85	-39
Montana	58	57	49	-16
Nebraska	1,590	1,680	1,400	-12
New Mexico	186	239	194	+4
North Dakota	22	39	42	+91
Ohio	195	180	165	-15
Oklahoma	290	330	280	-3
Oregon	67	73	53	-21
Pennsylvania	72	79	68	-6
South Dakota	315	350	345	+10
Texas	1,740	1,970	1,720	-1
Washington	179	155	152	-15
Wisconsin	102	112	120	+18
23 States	11,074	11,713	10,203	-8

1/Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a full ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade good or better.

WOOL PRODUCTION HIGHER IN 1979

Wool production in Wisconsin and the Nation during 1979 increased from the previous year. Wisconsin's 1979 wool production of 724,000 pounds was 24 percent more than in 1978 and the largest increase shown for any state. There were 93,000 sheep shorn in Wisconsin during 1979, up 16,000 head from a year earlier. Fleece weight averaged 7.8 pounds compared with 7.6 pounds in 1978. Wool prices averaged 72 cents a pound in Wisconsin for 1979, a gain of 4 cents from the previous year and the highest since 1951. With both production and prices up, the value of Wisconsin's 1979 wool crop increased 31 percent from 1978.

Shorn wool production in the Nation during 1979 totaled 103 million pounds, 1 percent more than in 1978. The average weight per fleece of 8.02 pounds was slightly less than the 1978 weight of 8.08 pounds. There were 12.8 million sheep shorn in the Nation during 1979, an increase of 2 percent from a year earlier. Prices of shorn wool continued to increase in 1979. Wool producers received an average price of 86.3 cents per pound last year, a gain of nearly 12 cents from 1978. The total value of shorn wool in the Nation for 1979

was almost \$89 million, up 17 percent from the previous year. Texas continued to lead in wool production with 19 million pounds for 1979, well ahead of California's 10.5 million pounds.

Wool Production

Major states and United States	Number of sheep shorn 1/		Weight per fleece 2/		Production		
	1978	1979	1978	1979	1978	1979	Change from last year
	1,000 head		Pounds		1,000 pounds		Percent
Arizona	336	340	7.7	7.6	2,595	2,576	-1
California	1,310	1,364	7.7	7.7	10,117	10,503	+4
Colorado	1,007	1,130	7.6	7.6	7,689	8,533	+11
Idaho	489	473	10.2	10.4	4,999	4,927	-1
Illinois	181	187	7.2	7.1	1,298	1,322	+2
Indiana	172	163	7.5	7.4	1,293	1,211	-6
Iowa	412	415	7.1	7.3	2,909	3,046	+5
Kansas	236	245	7.3	7.3	1,712	1,784	+4
Michigan	128	118	8.1	7.9	1,040	934	-10
Minnesota	243	252	7.6	7.7	1,857	1,933	+4
Missouri	126	127	7.4	7.3	928	928	n.c.
Montana	440	441	10.0	9.8	4,379	4,307	-2
Nebraska	198	215	7.2	7.0	1,420	1,506	+6
Nevada	102	100	10.4	10.3	1,061	1,030	-3
New Mexico	532	545	9.6	9.1	5,092	4,978	-2
New York	54	55	7.1	7.2	381	396	+4
North Dakota	169	175	9.9	9.5	1,670	1,670	n.c.
Ohio	365	345	7.6	7.4	2,769	2,552	-8
Oklahoma	78	84	7.4	7.4	576	620	+4
Oregon	485	545	7.2	6.6	3,480	3,610	+4
Pennsylvania	74	78	7.1	7.1	525	554	+6
South Dakota	743	779	9.1	9.0	6,725	7,019	+4
Texas	2,700	2,720	6.9	7.0	18,500	19,075	+3
Utah	483	460	10.2	10.2	4,945	4,689	-5
Virginia	150	145	6.3	6.3	945	914	-3
Washington	60	58	9.6	9.0	578	523	-10
West Virginia	114	105	5.8	5.9	661	620	-6
Wisconsin	77	93	7.6	7.8	584	724	+24
Wyoming	1,025	952	10.1	10.0	10,317	9,516	-8
Other	120	117	6.9	6.9	829	803	-3
United States	12,609	12,826	8.08	8.02	101,874	102,803	+1

1/Includes shearing at commercial feeding yards. 2/For Texas and California the weight per fleece is the amount of wool shorn per sheep and lamb during the year.

RED MEAT STOCKS LOWER BUT POULTRY STOCKS UP

Cold storage stocks of red meat in the Nation at the end of March were down 8 percent from a year earlier but poultry stocks were up 50 percent. Lower supplies of beef in cold storage offset larger pork stocks to keep total red meat stocks below a year ago.

Cold Storage Stocks of Red Meat and Poultry
United States, March 31, 1980, and Comparisons

Commodity	Mar. 31 1978	Mar. 31 1979	Feb. 29 1980	Mar. 31 1980	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds				Percent
FROZEN MEAT					
Beef	357,229	427,358	359,193	338,656	-21
Pork	215,836	245,582	270,815	290,936	+18
Veal	12,311	9,057	10,049	8,893	-2
Lamb and mutton	7,947	12,022	9,463	7,679	-36
CANNED MEATS					
IN COOLER					
Hams	52,624	49,907	48,757	39,006	-22
Other meats	12,434	18,550	17,583	13,730	-26
Total red meat 1/.	658,381	762,476	715,860	698,900	-8
FROZEN POULTRY					
Chicken, all	118,903	100,703	135,305	146,282	+45
Turkeys, all	113,004	135,687	223,578	208,015	+53
Total poultry 2/.	233,352	238,882	362,716	357,529	+50

1/Excludes cooler beef and cooler pork. 2/Includes frozen ducks.

The 338.7 million pounds of beef in cold storage on March 31st were 21 percent less than the previous year. Pork stocks, at nearly 291 million pounds, were 18 percent above last year. Stocks of veal were 2 percent under March 31, 1979, while supplies of lamb and mutton in cold storage showed a decline of 36 percent.

There were 208 million pounds of turkeys in cold storage at the end of March, an increase of 53 percent from a year earlier. Stocks of frozen chicken amounted to 143.3 million pounds, 45 percent more than in storage on March 31, 1979.

FEEDER PIG PRICES BELOW A YEAR AGO

Wisconsin farmers reported paying an average of \$70.00 per one hundred pounds of feeder pigs in February. Although this price was up \$16.00 from November 1979, it was \$36.00 lower than a year earlier.

Wisconsin Feeder Pig Prices 1/

Year	February	May	August	November
Dollars per cwt.				
1970	52.50	62.80	47.00	31.50
1971	22.90	30.00	31.90	34.90
1972	45.10	54.00	58.30	58.80
1973	60.50	77.20	86.20	80.20
1974	76.80	71.00	43.00	44.50
1975	57.50	91.00	99.50	120.00
1976	100.00	110.00	82.50	52.00
1977	57.50	86.00	86.50	86.50
1978	86.00	114.00	106.00	113.00
1979	106.00	99.00	60.00	54.00
1980	70.00			

1/Prior to 1979, the data was published for the months of January, April, July and October.

MARCH CATTLE SLAUGHTER ABOVE YEAR AGO

The number of cattle slaughtered in Wisconsin during March totaled 82,000 head, an increase of 7 percent from a year earlier. Federally inspected cow slaughter was down 1 percent from March 1979 but slaughter of steers and heifers was up 23 percent.

Calf slaughter in Wisconsin for March numbered 32,000 head, slightly above a year ago.

The 202,000 hogs butchered in Wisconsin during March were 7 percent more than in March 1979.

There were 300 sheep and lambs slaughtered in Wisconsin during March compared with 200 head for that month last year.

The Nation's cattle and calf slaughter for March was below a year earlier, but slaughter of hogs, sheep, and lambs increased.

SPRING FIELD WORK UNDERWAY

Dry weather in the second half of April allowed spring field work in Wisconsin to make good progress. About 20 percent of the State's oat acreage was seeded by April 27th, equal to a year ago but behind the average of 30 percent seeded in late April from 1970-79. Farmers in the southern counties were most advanced on seeding of oats, while work in the north and east was limited to lighter soils or higher ground. Corn ground was being plowed and prepared for planting. Some farmers with large acreages had begun corn planting in April.

Planting of potatoes and early peas made good advancement in April. Tobacco beds were being steamed and seeded. Hay fields and winter wheat were green but needed rain for better growth. Topsoil moisture supplies were becoming short by the end of April and a nice warm rain would be appreciated. Fire danger in forests and grasslands was high, with several fires occurring in April.

Fuel supplies are mostly adequate to surplus this spring. Diesel fuel supplies were reported as adequate by 89 percent of the respondents on the weekly crop-weather survey for April 28th, while 11 percent report supplies as surplus. Gasoline supplies were reported as adequate by 87 percent of the respondents and surplus by 13 percent.

Commercial Slaughter, March 1979 and 1980, Wisconsin and United States 1/

Species and area	Number slaughtered						Total liveweight		
	March			January - March			March		
	1979	1980	Change from last year 2/	1979	1980	Change from last year 2/	1979	1980	Change from last year 2/
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	Million pounds		Percent
WISCONSIN									
Cattle, all	77	82	+ 7	243	267	+ 10	89.9	99.0	+ 10
Cows 3/	40.4	39.8	- 1	125.5	136.6	+ 9	-	-	-
Steers and heifers 3/ . .	23.8	29.2	+ 23	77.5	91.2	+ 18	-	-	-
Calves	32	32	+ 2	100	104	+ 4	6.3	6.6	+ 5
Hogs, all	188	202	+ 7	478	593	+ 24	44.5	47.1	+ 6
Sows 3/.	2.2	1.8	-18	6.9	7.0	+ 1	-	-	-
Sheep and lambs2	.3	+ 50	.6	.8	+ 33	21 4/	27 4/	+ 29
UNITED STATES									
Cattle, all	2,853	2,572	-10	8,896	8,139	- 9	3,014	2,786	- 8
Cows 3/	474	406	-14	1,464	1,358	- 7	-	-	-
Heifers 3/	748	646	-14	2,358	2,039	-14	-	-	-
Steers 3/	1,402	1,303	- 7	4,360	4,079	- 6	-	-	-
Calves	272	221	-19	807	661	-18	63	50	-20
Hogs, all	7,398	8,210	+ 11	20,040	24,229	+ 21	1,760	1,957	+ 11
Sows 3/.	313	359	+ 15	908	1,146	+ 26	-	-	-
Sheep and lambs	444	485	+ 9	1,210	1,378	+ 14	53	56	+ 6

1/Excludes farm slaughter. 2/Percent change based on unrounded values. 3/Federally inspected only. 4/Expressed in thousands.

BEEF CATTLE PRICES UNDER A YEAR AGO

Beef cattle prices at Wisconsin auction markets during March were below that month of last year. Good and choice Holstein fed steers weighing 1,100 to 1,500 pounds averaged \$60.58 a hundredweight for March, up 12 cents from February but \$3.87 lower than March 1979.

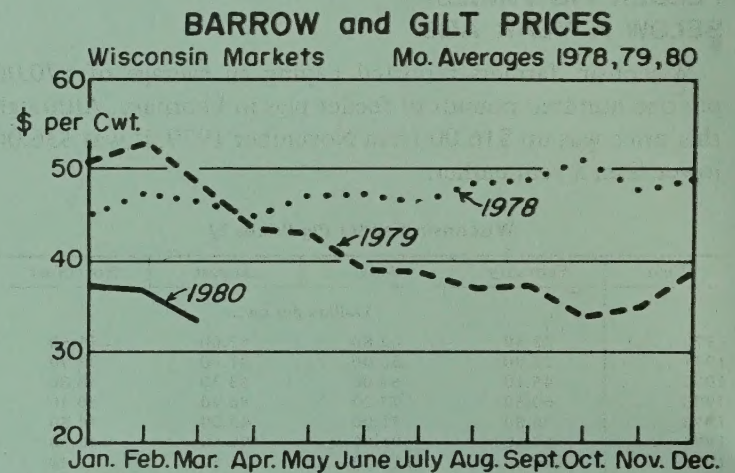
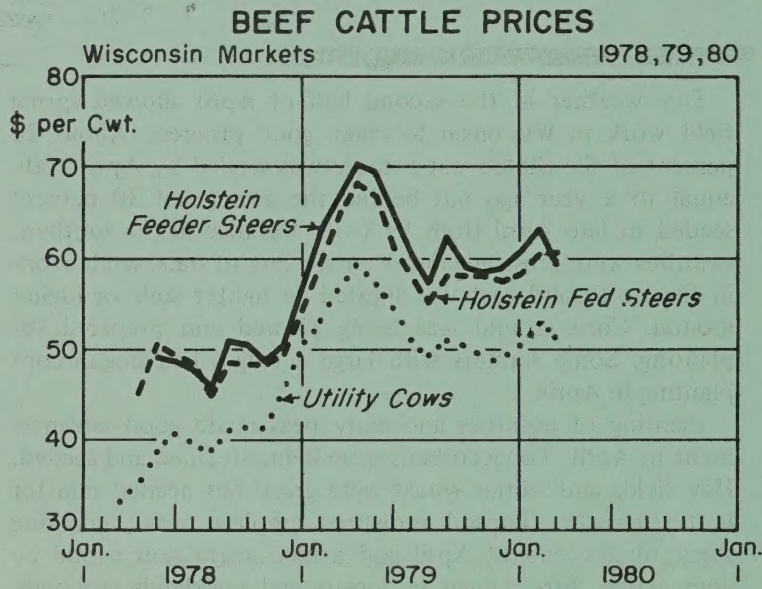
Large frame number two Holstein feeder steers weighing

800 to 1,000 pounds averaged \$59.44 a hundredweight in March, a decline of \$4.46 from the previous month and \$6.86 below a year earlier.

Utility cows averaged \$51.31 a hundredweight during March, down \$1.68 from February and \$5.17 under last year.

HOG MARKET LOWER

Prices paid for barrows and gilts at Wisconsin packing plants and country buying stations averaged \$33.56 a hundredweight in March for hogs weighing 200 to 230 pounds. This was \$3.52 lower than in February and \$14.54 below a year earlier.



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